

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 02049 231009Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-04 IO-06 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01
/025 W

-----055360 231040Z /10

P R 230903Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8755
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2049

LIMDIS

MTN GENEVA FOR CULBERT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EEWT, HU
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC REQUEST: JANOS NYERGES

REF: STATE 143864

1. ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS BIO MATERIAL ON NYERGES CONTAINED
IN NOVEMBER 6, 1973 CENTRAL BIOGRAPHIC REPORT. EMBASSY
BUDAPEST DEFERS TO GENEVA CONCERNING NYERGES' NEGOTIATING
STYLE, SINCE USDEL GENEVA HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE
WITH HIM AT MTN.

2. ALTHOUGH NYERGES' TITLE IS CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE,
HE WIELDS CONSIDERABLY MORE INFLUENCE THAN HIS POSITION
WOULD INDICATE. WHILE OBVIOUSLY DEFERRING TO DEPUTY MINISTERS
WHEN PROTOCOL REQUIRES, IN HIS OWN FIELD NYERGES REPORTS
DIRECTLY TO FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BIRO AND INDEED PROBABLY
TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER. HE IS WIDELY CREDITED
WITH SINGLE-HANDEDLY BRINGING HUNGARY INTO THE GATT,
A FEAT MADE MORE DIFFICULT SINCE CONSIDERABLE NEGOTIATING
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PAGE 02 BUDAPE 02049 231009Z

WAS OBVIOUSLY REQUIRED ON THE HOME FRONT.

3. NYERGES IS EXTREMELY WELL INFORMED ON CURRENT AFFAIRS,
AND HAS WORKED OUT SEVERAL PAT ARGUMENTS TO PROMOTE
HUNGARIAN FOREIGN ECONOMIC INTERESTS (MANY OF THESE WERE
REPORTED IN BUDAPEST 1502). HE DOES, HOWEVER, TEND TO
REPEAT THE SAME ARGUMENT TO THE SAME AUDIENCE AT A LATER

DATE -- AS IS THE CASE WITH HIS JOKES. HE HAS A GOOD
SENSE OF HUMOR.

4. NYERGES IS A GREAT ADMIRER OF MANY FACETS OF MODERN
WESTERN LIFE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CLAIMING TO BE A
DEDICATED SOCIALIST. HE ESPECIALLY HOLDS AMERICANS
IN GREAT RESPECT FOR THEIR ABILITY TO WORK HARD AND
THEIR INITIATIVE. NYERGES IS DIVORCED AND QUITE FOND
OF HIS DAUGHTER, WHO IS JUST FINISHING HER UNIVERSITY
STUDIES. HE IS, BY HUNGARIAN STANDARDS, SOMEWHAT OF A
WORKAHOLIC. HIS FAVORITE SPORT IS SWIMMING, IN WHICH
HE INDULGES MOST MORNINGS BEFORE TRAVELING TO THE OFFICE.

5. NYERGES SPEAKS EXCELLENT RUSSIAN (DUE TO TIME SPENT
AS A RUSSIAN POW IN WORLD WAR II), GERMAN AND ENGLISH.
HE IS FOND OF GOOD FOOD, OVERWEIGHT BUT DOES NOT SMOKE.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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